

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MONTEV 05698 151107Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 HA-05 SCS-06 CA-01 L-03
JUSE-00 SNM-05 DEAE-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 H-01
/095 W

-----053876 152315Z /63

R 151004Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5428
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONTEVIDEO 5698

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM, UY
SUBJ: HUMAN RIGHTS VISIT OF ROBERT GOLDMAN GROUP

REF: A. STATE 289213, B. STATE 294310

SUMMARY. IN MEETINGS WITH EMBASSY OFFICERS SINCE ARRIVAL
DECEMBER 12, GOLDMAN HAS CLARIFIED SPONSORSHIP OF HIS VISIT-
ING THREE-MAN HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP AND OUTLINED ITS OBJECTIVES.
GIVEN LACK OF ANY PRIOR PLANNING AND POLITICAL REALITIES CON-
FRONTING VISITING HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS HERE, GOLDMAN GROUP
IS NOT HAVING MUCH SUCCESS EITHER IN GETTING OTHER EMBASSIES
TO OFFER ANY REAL ASSISTANCE OR IN MAKING CONTACT WITH GOU. WE
ARE MAINTAINING DAILY CONTACT WITH GROUP AND BEING AS HELP-
FUL AS WE CAN. END SUMMARY.

1. ROBERT GOLDMAN ARRIVED MONTEVIDEO EVENING DECEMBER 12
ACCOMPANIED BY JEAN LOUIS WEIL OF FRENCH CATHOLIC JURISTS AND
DR. MARTINEZ BJORKMAN SOCIALIST SENATOR OF SPAIN.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MONTEV 05698 151107Z

2. GOLDMAN MET WITH DCM AND POLOFF YOULE AT EMBASSY MORNING OF
DECEMBER 13 SINCE AMBASSADOR WAS FULLY OCCUPIED WITH
MC AULIFFE VISIT. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS GOLDMAN REVEALED THAT
GROUP IS FUNDED BY PARIS-BASED INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT OF
CATHOLIC JURISTS AND SPONSORED BY NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES.
HE SAID SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF VISIT ARE TO PRESS GOU MILITARY

AND CIVILIAN AUTHORITIES (A) TO RELEASE ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS ABOUT TEN POLITICAL PRISONERS WHO ARE SERIOUSLY OR TERMINALLY ILL; (B) TO GRANT AMNESTY TO GENERAL SEREGNI AND TWO DAUGHTERS OF ASSASSINATED SENATOR MICHELINI AMONG OTHERS; AND (C) TO CLARIFY SITUATION OF "62" URUGUAYANS ALLEGEDLY KIDNAPPED IN ARGENTINA AND RETURNED TO URUGUAY. GOLDMAN INDICATED GROUP WOULD ALSO SEEK TO STIMULATE URUGUAYAN CATHOLIC CHURCH TO BECOME MORE ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN HUMAN RIGHTS CASES, CONVEYING PROMISE OF SUPPORT OF U.S. NATIONAL CATHOLIC CONFERENCE IF IT DID. GROUP ALSO PLANNED TO MEET WITH POLITICAL FOLLOWERS OF EXILED FORMER BLANCO PARTY SENATOR AND PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE WILSON FERREIRA.

3. AFTER GOLDMAN DESCRIBED HIS GROUP'S PROPOSED OBJECTIVES IN URUGUAY, THE DCM ASKED HOW THE GROUP PROPOSED TO ACHIEVE THEM, NOTING THAT THE GROUP HAD NO DIRECT CONTACT WITH THE GOU WHICH WAS PARTICULARLY HOSTILE TOWARDS VISITS OR INVESTIGATIONS BY ANY INTERNATIONAL GROUP OR ORGANIZATION. GOLDMAN REPLIED THAT THE GROUP EXPECTED THE EMBASSY TO ARRANGE ITS APPOINTMENTS WITH GOU OFFICIALS AND THAT THE EMBASSY'S FAILURE TO FURNISH SUCH "COOPERATION" WOULD BE MADE KNOWN THE NEXT DAY TO "JACK ANDERSON, VARIOUS CONGRESSMEN, WOLA, THE COUNCIL OF CHURCHES..." AT THIS POINT THE DCM CUT OFF GOLDMAN, REJECTING IN NO UNCERTAIN TERMS HIS THREAT TO THE EMBASSY. GOLDMAN PLEADED AT LENGTH THAT HE DID NOT MEAN TO THREATEN, BUT MERELY TO POINT OUT THE CONSEQUENCES THAT MIGHT RESULT, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MONTEV 05698 151107Z

AND HIS OWN DISASSOCIATION FROM THEM. THE DCM CONTINUED THAT IT WAS NOT A QUESTION OF WHETHER THE EMBASSY WISHED TO HELP THE GROUP, BUT RATHER WHETHER THERE WAS ANY FEASIBLE WAY THE GROUP COULD BE HELPED GIVEN THE POLITICAL REALITIES IN URUGUAY AND THE LACK OF ANY PRIOR PLANNING FOR THE GROUP'S VISIT. HE SAID THE AMBASSADOR WOULD WANT TO MEET WITH GOLDMAN.

4. IN DEPARTING, GOLDMAN SAID THE GROUP WOULD TRY TO CONTACT THE FRENCH AND BRITISH EMBASSIES TO SEEK THEIR ASSISTANCE. HE SAID DR. MARTINEZ HAD ALREADY MET THE EVENING OF DECEMBER 11 WITH THE SPANISH AMBASSADOR, WHO TOLD MARTINEZ THAT HE HAD CABLED MADRID FOR INSTRUCTIONS BUT HAD RECEIVED NO REPLY. THE SPANIARD ADDED THAT, IN THE ABSENCE OF INSTRUCTIONS, HE HAD NOT INTENTION OF ASSISTING THE GROUP UNLESS THE AMERICAN EMBASSY TOOK THE LEAD.

5. ON THE MORNING OF DECEMBER 14, POLOFF AGAIN MET WITH GOLDMAN, MARTINEZ, AND WEIL. DISCUSSION WAS LARGELY BETWEEN THE THREE VISITORS AND FOCUSED PRINCIPALLY ON A WEIGHING OF THE LIMITED ALTERNATIVES OPEN TO THEM TO SALVAGE SOMETHING FROM THEIR ONE-WEEK VISIT. THE VISITORS STATED THAT THEY HAVE GREATLY LOWERED THEIR SIGHTS AND NOW ARE SEEKING ONLY TO: (A) CALL ON

JUSTICE MINISTER BAYARDO TO INFORM HIM OF THEIR PRESENCE AND THE CONCERNS WHICH BROUGHT THEM TO URUGUAY; (B) CALL ON ARCHBISHOP PARTELLI; AND (C) MAKE CONTACT WITH A FEW PERSONS OUTSIDE THE GOVERNMENT, IF THIS CAN BE DONE WITHOUT ENDANGERING THE INDIVIDUALS CONCERNED. THE VISITORS DEPARTED, WITH THE INTENTION OF AGAIN VISITING THE SPANISH AMBASSADOR TO ASK THAT HE REQUEST THE APPOINTMENT WITH BAYARDO.

6. SEPARATELY, THE SPANISH AMBASSADOR ASKED TO MEET WITH THE AMBASSADOR. AT THEIR MEETING THE SPANISH AMBASSADOR RECOUNTED HIS MEETING WITH MARTINEZ (IN WHICH HE STRONGLY CRITICIZED THE VISITOR' LACK OF PREPARATION) AND INDICATED THAT, IN THE ABSENCE OF INSTRUCTIONS FROM MADRID, HE WOULD TAKE NO ACTION TO ASSIST THE GROUP.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 MONTEV 05698 151107Z

7. EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN DAILY CONTACT WITH THE GROUP AND TO BE AS HELPFUL AS WE CAN.
PEZZULLO

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MONTEV05698
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770467-1126
Format: TEL
From: MONTEVIDEO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771253/aaaabsew.tel
Line Count: 140
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 56336d03-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 289213, 77 STATE 294310
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 225723
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HUMAN RIGHTS VISIT OF ROBERT GOLDMAN GROUP
TAGS: SHUM, OTRA, UY, (GOLDMAN, ROBERT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/56336d03-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009